GENERAL SYNOD

July 2006 Group of Sessions

Report by the Business Committee

Introduction and Overview of the Agenda

- 1. The agenda for the July Group of Sessions covers a wide range of subjects, with a strong focus on the future ordering of the Church, in respect of the next steps in the consideration of women bishops, and several major pieces of legislative business. The Agenda also has an outward facing dimension, as demonstrated by the Report of the Commission on Urban Life and Faith, and the report on Further Education.
- 2. The Agenda is constrained by the need to provide a substantial tranche of time for legislative business (particularly the Revision Stage of the Dioceses, Pastoral and Mission Measure) and the next stage in the consideration of the ordination of women to the episcopate. However, the Agenda also provides for several presentations (on the Report of the Commission on Urban Life and Faith, the recent WCC Assembly, and Clergy Terms of Service), and it is hoped that this variety of approach in bringing subjects to the Synod will be found helpful. For example, the presentation on the CULF report provides the basis for group discussion and the ensuing debate.

Venue and Timing

3. The July meeting of the General Synod will take place at the University of York from 4 pm on Friday 7 July to 1 pm on Tuesday 11 July.

Highlights of the Agenda

- 4. Principal debates at the July Synod include:
 - Women Bishops: the next steps
 - Legislative Business, including the Dioceses, Pastoral and Mission Measure, and the Church of England Marriage Measure
 - Report of the Commission on Urban Life and Faith
 - Further Education
- 5. The Agenda includes one Private Member's Motion, from Mrs Joanna Monckton, on the Married Couples' Tax Allowance, and one Diocesan Synod Motion (from the Southwark Diocese) on Carbon Dioxide Emissions.
- 6. There are no designated contingency items for this Group of Sessions because the next items for debate in the lists of the Diocesan Synod Motions (Lichfield DSM on the Media) and Private Members' Motions (by the Revd Paul Perkin, on Civil Partnerships) are considered by the Business Committee to be too substantial to be considered as contingency business. If space unexpectedly opens in the Agenda, the Business Committee will seek a variation in the order of business to advance items which appear later in the Agenda.
- 7. The whole of the morning of Tuesday 11 July has been reserved for (a) time to complete legislative business, and (b) a

debate on Mrs Monckton's Private Member's Motion on the Married Couples' Tax Allowance, with prorogation of the Synod no later than 1 pm. An additional uncertainty is that time may be needed, whether on Tuesday 11 July or earlier in the Group of Sessions, for a Presidential Statement by the Archbishop of Canterbury on developments in the Anglican Communion, depending on events over the coming weeks.

- 8. The Business Committee has given careful consideration whether to allocate time at the July Synod for the Bishop of Southwark's following motion on property investment (which could not be debated at the February Synod because the time allocated for the debate of the Ethical Investment Advisory Group report had expired.) The Committee is mindful of the presumption in the Synod's Standing Orders that such motions will normally lapse, and the Committee does not see an overriding reason to make an exception to this.
- 9. The Business Committee has also considered whether the Private Member's Motion from Mr Adrian Greenwood on the Octavia Hill Estates, which was second in the list (with 107 signatures), could still be debated. The Committee has decided that Mr Greenwood's motion has been overtaken by events (the sale of the Octavia Hill Estates) and therefore cannot now be debated (even if time could be found at this Group of Sessions). It, therefore, no longer appears in Special Agenda III. However, the Committee has scheduled a debate on the Annual Report of the Church Commissioners, which should provide an opportunity for Synod members to raise concerns about any aspect of the Commissioners' work.
- 10. At the July Synod, it is customary to include either an exposition of Scripture or group work based on Bible study, or

other study material. This year there will be group work on the Report of the Commission on Urban Life and Faith.

- 11. A financial comment has been prepared by the Finance Division on items of Synod business which have significant financial implications, and this will be circulated in an Order Paper.
- 12. The forecast of business annexed to this report provides a forward look to the Groups of Sessions in February and July 2007. There are always considerable uncertainties when looking ahead in this way, so this should not be read as more than a broad indication of the business expected to come to the Synod.

Dates and Hours of Sitting

13. The times of the July Group of Sessions are set out on the front of the Agenda (GS 1612). The notes - to be circulated in the second Synod mailing - on transport, accommodation, etc, supplied to members who are coming to York, include a timetable, which also shows the times of services and meals.

Anglican and Ecumenical Representatives

- 14. The Synod will have the opportunity to welcome as observers:
 - The Most Revd Dr Joris Vercammen, Archbishop of Utrecht Old Catholic Church
 - Oberkirchenrat Matthias Kaiser, Co-Secretary of the Meissen Commission - Evangelical Church in Germany

The Very Revd Alun Hawkins, Dean of Bangor -

Church in Wales

Synod Worship

- 15. There will be a clear strand of worship throughout the Group of Sessions and the worship will reflect some of the themes of business before the Synod. Holy Communion will be celebrated at 7.30 am on Saturday, Monday and Tuesday in the Central Hall. There will be a short act of worship in the Central Hall at the beginning of the morning sessions on Monday and Tuesday. Evening worship will take place daily in the Central Hall at 6.20 pm. Service leaflets will be distributed to members at York.
- 16. On Sunday 11 July, the Synod will attend a service of Holy Communion in York Minster, at which the Archbishop of Canterbury will preach and the Archbishop of York will preside. Arrangements for transport to the Minster on the Sunday will be announced in a separate notice to be circulated later. A special coach service will be provided, tickets for which will be on sale from the information desk in the concourse of the Central Hall. As there may not be enough places for everyone on the coaches, it is hoped that some members will walk or use their car and take passengers. There is usually plenty of vacant space on Sunday mornings in the car parks near the city centre (for which a fee may be charged).

Voting Procedures

17. Members are reminded that particular voting procedures on a division apply at York. The Business Committee has decided to alternate (in successive years) the practice at York of ascending and descending the stairs in order to vote. Therefore, this year clergy and laity wishing to vote

'yes' will vote by ascending the stairs and leave the Hall via the doors to the balcony; those wishing to vote 'no' will descend the stairways and leave the Hall through the exits to the concourse. Members who have difficulty in ascending or descending the steps in order to vote are reminded that they may remain in their seats and have their vote taken by a teller who will pass it on to the registrar.

Order of Business

18. The business each day will follow the order set out in the daily list given in the Agenda, except where it is necessary to modify this. Every effort will be made to give the Synod the longest possible notice of any variations which it is proposed to make in the timetable and to keep such changes to a minimum. Members are, however, reminded that if at any time within the Group of Sessions an unexpected gap opens in the Synod's Agenda, business earlier in the agenda, which has not been reached or completed within the period allotted, can be called by the Chairman, unless other provision has already been made for it. Members are reminded that the rubric 'not later than' in the Agenda does not prevent an item coming on significantly earlier than the time stated, depending on the progress of the preceding business.

Private Members' Motions

19. Notice of Private Members' Motions received is contained in Special Agenda III. Any future notices of Private Members' Motions will be published in notice papers and will be available for signature at the July Group of Sessions only if they are received **no later than 5.30 pm on Friday 7 July**.

Content of Business

<u>Introductions, welcomes and presentation of officers</u> (Friday, 7 July)

20. There will be the customary introduction of new members, the welcoming of the ecumenical representatives, and a brief address by the Archbishop of Utrecht on behalf of the ecumenical observers. The newly appointed Pro- and Deputy Prolocutors will be presented to the Presidents.

Report by the Business Committee

21. This will provide the customary opportunity for members to raise points about the Agenda for this Group of Sessions or about the Synod's business generally.

Further Education

22. The report from the Board of Education (GS 1628), prepared with ecumenical partners and faith communities, is timely. There is currently a greater Government commitment to further education than for over thirty years. The recent 2006 White Paper: Further Education follows two White Papers in 2005, on Skills, and on 14 to 19 Education. All give the highest priority to the needs of this generation of young people for new forms of skills and education - and to meeting their faith needs. The Minister of State for Further and Higher Education, Mr Bill Rammell, has called for a chaplaincy in every college. This motion from General Synod would also increase pressure on Government to extend to students in FE colleges the entitlement to provision for spiritual and moral development.

23. There is now a momentum which, if taken seriously, offers a once-in-a-generation opportunity to extend very significantly the Church's engagement with young people where they are - 43% of the 16 to 19 year-olds (as well as 4.6 million adults) are learners in FE colleges. If the Synod approves the motions, the Church can make a significant contribution to the biggest programme of change in post-16 education, starting from September, since the development of FE in the 1950s.

Ouestions

- 24. Under SO 105, members may address Questions to the Chairman of the Archbishops' Council, the Secretary General, the Clerk to the Synod, the Chairman of any body answerable to the Synod through the Archbishops' Council (including Boards and Councils), the Chairman of any Church of England body on which the Synod is represented, the Chairman of each of the three Houses of Synod, and the Church Estates Commissioners. Members may ask a maximum of two questions. Anyone wishing to ask a question must give notice of it to reach the Clerk to the Synod by **5.30 pm on Tuesday 27 June**. The Questions notice paper will be distributed at the beginning of the Group of Sessions.
- 25. Members are reminded that 'omnibus' questions are not in order. If a member wishes to query several points, each should be the subject of a separate question. Detailed information, tables of figures, etc are better dealt with in a written answer and members are urged to be selective in matters which they raise orally at Question Time, including in any supplementaries, which must be framed as a question and should be kept brief. Members should indicate clearly when submitting a Question whether it is for oral or written answer.

<u>Presidential Address (by the Archbishop of York)</u> (Saturday, 8 July)

26. A presidential address will be given by the Archbishop of York.

Appointments to the Archbishops' Council

- 27. Vacancies have been advertised for two of the appointed places on the Archbishops' Council to fill those vacated by the Bishop of Portsmouth (at the end of 2005) and Professor Peter Toyne (at the end of 2006). There has been a rigorous process of application and interview and recommendations have been made to the Archbishops. The Synod is asked to approve the two appointments, each for five years.
- 28. Mr Michael Chamberlain has been an appointed member of the Council since its inception in 1998, serving as Chair of the Council's Finance Committee. His term of appointment expires at the end of 2006, but the Archbishops wish to re-appoint him for a further term in order to help steer the Council through the major developments affecting finance and pensions. The Synod is asked to approve his reappointment for one year until 31 December 2007.

Legislative Business

29. The major piece of legislative business before the Synod at this group of sessions is the Revision Stage in relation to the draft Dioceses, Pastoral and Mission Measure, Amending Canon No 27 and the Vacancy in See Committees (Amendment) Regulation. The draft legislation having been

amended in various respects by the Revision Committee, the Revision Stage gives members generally an opportunity to propose further amendments, subject to the proviso that (unless the Business Committee allows otherwise) they relate to a matter contained in the report of the Revision Committee (GS 1597-9Y).

- 30. The Synod will also be asked to give First Consideration to the draft Church of England Marriage Measure. This will give effect to the decision of the previous General Synod in the context of the review of marriage law that the right to marry in a Church of England church should be extended to those having certain types of connection with the church in question (previously referred to as a 'demonstrable connection' but described in the draft Measure as a 'qualifying connection').
- 31. Approval will also be sought for a number of smaller pieces of legislation, in addition to the usual Fees Orders. Because of their number, it is proposed that most will be dealt with under the 'deemed procedure' i.e. that they will not be debated unless a member asks that they should be.
- 32. Several of these items are in some way connected with the coming into force of the Clergy Discipline Measure 2003 ('the CDM'): the Scheme to be confirmed by the Channel Islands (Bailiwick of Guernsey) Order extends the CDM, with appropriate modifications, to Guernsey; the Scheme amending the Diocese in Europe Constitution 1995, whilst making other changes, is principally concerned to enable the CDM to apply to clergy within that diocese; and the Legal Aid (Amendment) Rules make some technical changes to the arrangements for the administration of ecclesiastical legal aid.

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- 33. Of the remaining items, the Church of England Funded Pensions Scheme (Amendment) Rules make technical changes to the Rules of the Funded Pension Scheme for clergy. The Church Accounting Regulations will simplify the requirements for accounting by PCCs by bringing them more closely into line with the requirements for charities generally. The Care of Cathedrals Rules will provide a comprehensive revision of the Care of Cathedrals Rules 1990, in the light of changes made by the Care of Cathedrals (Amendment) Measure 2005.
- 34. Full details of the legislative business for this Group of Sessions can be found, as usual, in Special Agenda I.

Women Bishops: Theological Principle

- 35. There are two debates planned on women in the episcopate, one on the theological principle and the second on the next steps, including the establishment of a legislative drafting group. The background is set out in a note by the Presidents (GS 1630). The debate on the second motion, scheduled for Monday morning, will take place only if the first motion, scheduled for Saturday morning, has been carried.
- 36. The papers to inform the debates will be the Rochester Report (GS 1557), published in November 2004 (copies of which are available on request), the Presidents' Note (GS 1630), the report from the Bishops of Guildford and Gloucester (GS Misc 826), and GS Misc 827, which includes papers from the Faith and Order Advisory Group and the address which Cardinal Kasper gave to the Bishops' Meeting in June.

Financial Business (Sunday, 9 July)

Pensions Presentation

- 37. Mr Allan Bridgewater, the Chairman of the Pensions Board and a member of the Archbishops' Task Group, will brief the Synod on the work which has been going on over the last few months to address the issues affecting the future funding of the clergy pensions scheme. These include discussions with the Pensions Regulator and consideration by the Church Commissioners about the role that they might play in supporting the scheme and putting together an overall package.
- 38. Following the publication of its first report on 1 March, the Task Group has stayed in place to co-ordinate the next stage of the work and will be issuing a second report, for wide consultation around the church shortly before Synod. This report will not be for debate at this Group of Sessions but will form the backdrop for the presentation and subsequent exchanges. The Synod is likely to have to take decisions on the way forward in February in the light of the results of the consultation exercise.

Archbishops' Council's Budget for 2007

39. The 2007 Budget (GS 1632) provides for an overall increase of 2.9% across the five Votes that make up the Council's budget. The Council has managed to avoid any increase in its own costs (Vote 2) this year, thanks to the savings that the Council will realise following the refurbishment work being done at Church House coupled with a tight budgeting round. The main increase this time is in Vote 1 for ordination training, given increases in the numbers in

(particularly part-time course-based) training. The Table of Apportionment towards the end of the document sets out the amount each diocese would be called upon to contribute.

Church Commissioners' Annual Report

40. The Commissioners' Annual Report was published on 27 April. By convention the Business Committee permits the Commissioners' annual report to be debated, at their request, on a biennial basis (it was last debated in 2004). The Commissioners find it very helpful to be able to relate to the Synod in this way as it does provide them with an opportunity to explain what they are seeking to achieve, and at the same time to hear from Synod members about their concerns or try to address any questions they might have, whether about specific recent issues or their role and activities more generally. The report will be presented by the First Church Estates Commissioner, Mr Andreas Whittam Smith.

Southwark Diocesan Synod Motion: Carbon Dioxide Emissions

- 41. This Diocesan Synod Motion was held back in the list because a wide-ranging debate on the environment (which encompassed this issue), under the title Sharing God's Planet (GS 1558), took place in February 2005. Under Standing Order 24, the matter could not ordinarily be reconsidered by the Synod for at least eleven months. It was listed in February 2006 as contingency business but in the event was not debated.
- 42. The Synod was apprised of the Southwark Diocesan Synod Motion when it debated the Environment in February 2005. Miss Vasantha Gnanadoss moved an amendment asking the Mission and Public Affairs Council to investigate and

recommend how church members can contribute to a reduction in carbon dioxide emissions by 60% (of 1990 levels) by 2050, in line with the Inter-governmental Panel on Climate Change, but this was lost. The Diocese of Southwark has nevertheless indicated that it still wishes its Diocesan Synod Motion to be the subject of a substantive debate in the General Synod.

43. A background paper (GS Misc 824) by the Diocese of Southwark was circulated to the February Synod and a revised version is being re-circulated (GS 825A). A background paper by the Mission and Public Affairs Division (GS Misc 825B) is also being circulated.

WCC Assembly

- 44. The Ninth Assembly of the World Council of Churches took place at the Pontifical Catholic University of Porto Alegre, Brazil from 14 to 23 February 2006. The Church of England appointed a delegation of five: the Bishop of Southwark, Canon Elizabeth Fisher, Mrs Mary Judkins, the Revd Rose Hudson-Wilkin and the Revd Preb. Dr Paul Avis (General Secretary of the Council for Christian Unity). The delegation, which made a substantial contribution to the Assembly, wishes to report to the General Synod on the Assembly and on current developments within the World Council of Churches.
- 45. The Assemblies at Canberra (1991) and Harare (1998) were followed by debates in the Synod. On this occasion, however, a Presentation is more appropriate, as there is no major issue to be debated with regard to the WCC. On the other hand, there is a need to present information and evaluation, not only of the Assembly itself, in its Latin-American context, but also of the WCC at a time of transition.

There will be a written report (GS 1629), a PowerPoint presentation and input from the members of the delegation. There will also be the opportunity for brief comments and questions from the floor.

46. One aspect of the recent Assembly that may well be of interest to the Synod was the introduction of consensus discernment and decision-making. Notwithstanding some initial difficulties, this generally proved useful and was well received. Another noteworthy development is that Dr Mary Tanner (formerly General Secretary of the Council for Christian Unity) was elected as one of the Presidents of the WCC.

Archbishops' Council: Annual Report 2005 (for deemed approval)

47. This year's Annual Report (GS 1615) is the first to reflect the approach advocated in the latest Charity Commission Statement of Recommended Practice. Like other charities, the Archbishops' Council will now be producing annual reports that focus more on outcomes and major achievements during the year, rather than reporting at length on virtually all activities and events.

<u>Audit Committee Annual Report for 2005 (for deemed approval)</u>

48. This year's annual report (GS 1623) follows the usual format and covers a range of subjects, including the Audit Committee's consideration of the auditors' reports, the implementation of the SAP finance system, risk management and corporate governance issues.

Report by the Standing Orders Committee (for deemed approval)

49. The 40th Report of the Standing Orders Committee (GS 1621) concerns one item (which the Business Committee has determined may be dealt with under the 'deeming' procedure). The Synod has already approved an amendment to Canon H2 which would permit, when a See is vacant, a suffragran bishop to attend and speak (but not vote) at meetings of the Synod. This requires a consequential amendment to the Standing Orders to regulate the procedure and the Committee accordingly presents a new Standing Order that replicates the procedures relating to those groups that already have speaking (but not voting) rights in the Synod.

<u>Women Bishops: House of Bishops' proposals</u> (Monday, 10 July)

50. See paragraphs 35-36.

Commission on Urban Life and Faith

- 51. The afternoon will begin with a presentation on the report of the Commission on Urban Life and Faith, *Faithful Cities* (GS 1611), by the Revd Baroness Richardson of Callow (the Commission's Chair), followed by a presentation by the Archbishop of York (the Commission's Vice-Chair). This will be followed by group work at about 3 pm, which will focus on the issues presented by the *Faithful Cities*. The Synod will then reconvene at 4.45 pm for a debate on the motion commending and taking forward the Report.
- 52. Faithful Cities was launched by the Archbishops and Baroness Richardson on 22 May. In both content and design,

Faithful Cities is very different to previous urban reports. While dealing with issues facing larger metropolises the report also raises those challenges confronting smaller towns, seaside communities and those areas impacted by new building programmes. The report encourages a dynamic debate on what makes for good urban living, as well as how we gauge the contribution of faith communities through what the report calls 'faithful capital'.

53. Bishops have been encouraged to use the report as a resource in their dealings with local authorities and regeneration programmes. Each diocese is expected to organise at least one seminar on the implications of the report for councillors, their officers, clergy and others in the diocese involved in this agenda. Each Bishop has been asked to nominate two representatives to attend a briefing day in London (on 16 June) to enable their diocese to use the report effectively.

Clergy Terms of Service

54. The Archbishops' Council set up a group under the chairmanship of Professor David McClean in 2002 to review the terms under which the clergy hold office, following the Council's response to the DTI's discussion document *Employment Status in relation to Statutory Employment Rights*. The Group's report on the first phase of its work (GS 1527) was debated by the General Synod in February 2004, when its recommendations were welcomed. The Group's second report (GS 1564) was debated in February 2005. After resolving to take note of the report, the Synod passed the following resolution (after a successful amendment by the Archdeacon of Berkshire shown in italics):

"That this Synod

- (a) Welcome in general terms the recommendations summarized on pages 1 to 7 of the (main) Report, but with grave reservations about recommendations v, ix, xxxiiif and xxxiiig;
- (b) commend the report to the dioceses and the wider Church and ask dioceses and other interested parties to submit comments by the end of July 2005 to the implementation group referred to in (c) below;
- (c) request the Archbishops' Council to appoint an implementation group to follow up the recommendations in the report, (taking account of the responses from dioceses and other interested parties both to this report and to the earlier report (GS 1527) on the first phase of the work) and to bring forward legislation based on those recommendations as early as possible in the next quinquennium."
- 55. The areas where the Synod expressed reservations were to do with the proposal to transfer ownership of the clergy house, the church and churchyard from the incumbent to the Diocesan Board of Finance. In its first report (GS 1593: the Property Issues Revisited), the Implementation Group rethought these proposals in the light of the reservations of Synod and the comments submitted to it, and produced revised recommendations. These were debated by the Synod last November, after which Synod asked the Group to reflect these recommendations in the draft legislation that it is preparing.

- 56. It had been originally hoped that the Group might be ready to bring draft legislation to the July sessions this year. This has not been possible because of the volume and complexity of the work, and the need for further reflection on the property issues. In view of this, it is now intended to bring draft legislation to the February 2007 sessions.
- 57. The July Synod, therefore, provides an opportunity for a question and answer session on the work of the Clergy Terms of Service Implementation Group, with an introductory presentation by Professor David McClean. The primary focus of the session will be to brief the substantial number of new members in this Synod who have not had the benefit of hearing the arguments and the presentations that were provided in advance of the debates on the Review Group's Reports. It will also provide an opportunity to address misunderstandings of the current legal position revealed by the debate in November last year.

Legislative Business

58. See paragraphs 29-34.

<u>Private Member's Motion from Mrs Joanna Monckton:</u> <u>Married Couples' Tax Allowance</u>

59. The Private Member's Motion from Mrs Joanna Monckton calls upon the Government to bring back the married couples' tax allowance, and to explore ways for removing this disincentive and encouraging more couples to affirm their commitment and love to each other in marriage. The married couples' tax allowance was withdrawn in 2000, except for certain pensioners over 70 years of age. The background paper by Mrs Monckton (GS Misc 824A) observes

that the tax and benefit system have created a situation where it is financially advantageous to live apart. It is not suggested that there should be any reduction in the support given to lone-parent families, but that comparable support should be given to married couples, and there should be no tax penalty on a lone parent marrying or re-marrying. A background paper from the Mission and Public Affairs Division is also being circulated (GS Misc 824B).

Concluding Business

60. The Synod will be prorogued no later than 1 pm. The closing ceremonies will be conducted by the Archbishop of York

Other items of business: progress report

- 61. In July 2003 Synod commended the report *Called to Act Justly* (GS 1512), endorsed its recommendations and asked for a report on progress in implementation within the next three years. In fulfilment of that request a paper, *Called to Act Justly Follow-up*, is circulated as a report to Synod members detailing action taken on the recommendations. A separate paper is also circulated, forming an executive summary of a major survey of the ethnic origins of the Church's clergy. This is the first picture the Church has of the ethnic diversity of its ordained leadership. It is intended that there should be a broadbased debate on the role and contribution of minority ethnic Anglicans at the February 2007 Group of Sessions.
- 62. In February 2005, the Synod agreed to request the Archbishops' Council to commission a working party to review the office of suffragan bishop, dean, archdeacon and residentiary canon, and the law and practice regarding

appointments to these offices, and to report back to the Synod within eighteen months. A short report from the Review Group, chaired by Sir Joseph Pilling, is therefore circulated to inform the Synod of the progress of this review. It is a substantial and complex exercise, but the Review Group is well advanced in its work. However, time is required to complete this work and it is expected that a report will be made to the Archbishops' Council to enable it to report to the Synod in February or July 2007.

Other work of the Business Committee

- 63. A large volume of correspondence was received following the February Group of Sessions, much of it generated by the following motions from the Bishop of Southwark and Mr Keith Malcouronne (Guildford) to the Ethical Investment Advisory Group debate. Procedural questions arose from this, about notification and briefing for following motions tabled just before the start of a Synod for debate early in a Group of Sessions. Comments were also received about the handling of the items on women bishops, in particular the structure of the seminar on the ecumenical responses, and the placing of Questions at the end of a group of sessions.
- 64. In addition to this business-related correspondence, a number of Synod members have made detailed suggestions about such matters as alternative ways of handling Synod business, seminars, group work, and the timing of business. (Correspondence about the selection of speakers has been referred to the Panel of Chairmen, and correspondence about Synod worship has been referred to the Synod Chaplain.)

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65. The Committee will be considering these matters further at its September meeting and will also be looking at practical arrangements in relation to electronic voting and refurbishment of the Assembly Hall, with a view to preparing a report for the February Synod.

On behalf of the Committee Kay Garlick

May 2006

Members of the Business Committee

The Revd Prebenday Kay Garlick (Hereford) - Chair

Elected by the House of Bishops
The Rt Revd Trevor Willmott, Bishop of Basingstoke

Elected by the House of Clergy
The Revd Sue Booys (Oxford)
The Ven Alan Hawker, Archdeacon of Malmesbury (Bristol)
The Ven Alistair Magowan, Archdeacon of Dorset (Salisbury)

Elected by the House of Laity
Miss Rosalind Fuller (London)
Mrs Sue Johns (Norwich)
Mr Gerald O'Brien (Rochester)

Two members appointed by the Archbishops' Council Professor Peter Toyne The Revd Canon Glyn Webster

(The Secretary to the Committee is David Williams and the Assistant Secretary is Malcolm Taylor)

Draft forecast of future General Synod business

This forecast should not be read as more than a broad indication of business expected to come to the Synod in 2007.

One or more Private Members' Motions and Diocesan Synod Motions are customarily included in each Group of Sessions.

February 2007

Legislation Draft Pastoral and Dioceses Measure,

Amending Canon No 27 and

Vacancy in See Committees (Amendment)

Regulation – Final Drafting

and Final Approval

Church of England Marriage Measure –

Revision Stage

Clergy Terms of Service legislation – First

Consideration

Church of England (Pensions) Measure

[Commissioners' power to spend capital]

First Consideration

National Institutions of the Church of England

(Transfer of Functions) Order

[re CBF's functions]

?Ecclesiastical Fees (Amendment) Measure

[parochial fees] – First Consideration

?Amending Canon re Canon B44

Reports Clergy Pensions

Debate on the Role of Minority Ethnic

Anglicans

Electronic voting: practicalities

Fresh Expressions: debate or presentation

?The Dearing Report: Five years on

?Senior Church Appointments (or July 2007) ?Human Genome

July 2007

Legislation Church of England Marriage Measure – Final

Drafting and Final Approval

Church of England (Pensions) Measure –

Revision Stage

? Ecclesiastical Fees (Amendment) Measure

[parochial fees] - Revision Stage

Usual Fees Orders

Reports Anglican/Methodist Covenant: second interim

report from the Joint Implementation

Commission

Faith and Order Advisory Group (FOAG)

follow-up report to For Such a Time

as This

Reader Ministry

Standing Orders Committee report

Lambeth Conference: preparatory presentation

Liturgical Formation and Church Music

?Senior Church Appointments (if not February

2007)

?Disability issues in the Church of England

24 May 2006